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Attorney for Plaintiff, RAMON BERMUDEZ

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

RAMON BERMUDEZ,)	Case No.: <u>'16CV1258 LAB NLS</u>
)	
)	COMPLAINT
Plaintiff,)	
)	(Unlawful Debt Collection Practices)
v.)	
)	
)	
CITIBANK, N.A.,)	
)	
)	
Defendant.)	

RAMON BERMUDEZ ("Plaintiff"), by his attorneys, KROHN & MOSS, LTD., alleges the following against CITIBANK, N.A. ("Defendant"):

INTRODUCTION

- Count I of Plaintiff's Complaint is based on the Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices Act ("Rosenthal"), Cal. Civ. Code §1788 *et seq.*
- Count II of the Plaintiff's Complaint is based on Telephone Consumer Protection Act ("TCPA"), 28 U.S.C. §227 *et seq.*

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JURISDICTION AND VENUE

3. Jurisdiction of this court over Count II of Plaintiff's Complaint arises pursuant to 15 U.S.C. § 1331 and 28 U.S.C. § 1367 grants this court supplemental jurisdiction over the state claims contained in Count I.
4. Defendant conducts business in the State of California thereby establishing personal jurisdiction.
5. Venue is proper pursuant to 28 U.S.C. 1391(b)(2).

PARTIES

6. Plaintiff is a natural person residing in San Diego, California.
7. Plaintiff is a consumer or debtor and allegedly owes a debt as that term is defined by Cal. Civ. Code § 1788.2(d)-(e).
8. Defendant is a business entity with a business office located in Sioux Falls, South Dakota and conducting business in California.
9. Defendant is a debt collector as that term is defined by Cal. Civ. Code §1788.2(c), and sought to collect a consumer debt from Plaintiff.
10. Defendant acted through its agents, employees, officers, members, directors, heirs, successors, assigns, principals, trustees, sureties, subrogees, representatives, and insurers.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

11. Plaintiff acquired a credit card from Defendant which was used for personal, family, and household purposes.
12. Defendant placed calls to telephone number [REDACTED], which is Plaintiff's cellular telephone.
13. Upon information and belief based on the frequency, number, nature, and character of these calls, Defendant placed each of its calls to Plaintiff using an automatic telephone

1 dialing system or other equipment that has the capacity to store and/or produce
2 telephone numbers.

3 14. The purpose of these calls was to collect funds from Plaintiff for purchases arising from
4 the credit card.

5 15. On December 1, 2015 at approximately 2:49 PM, Plaintiff spoke with one of
6 Defendant's representatives and instructed Defendant to stop calling his cell phone
7 number.

8 16. Defendant continued to call Plaintiff's cell phone.

9 17. On December 30, 2015 at approximately 10:09 AM, Plaintiff called spoke with one of
10 Defendant's representatives and instructed Defendant a second time to stop calling his
11 cell phone number.

12 18. Defendant continued to call Plaintiff's cell phone.

13 19. Since December 1, 2016, Defendant called Plaintiff's cell phone at least two hundred
14 sixty-nine (269) times.

15 20. During this time period Defendant called Plaintiff's cell phone as many as four (4) times
16 in a single day.

17 21. Plaintiff is annoyed and feels harassed by Defendant's calls.

18 22. Defendant placed these calls voluntarily.

19 23. Defendant placed these calls under its own free will.

20 24. Defendant had knowledge that it was using an automatic telephone dialing system to
21 place these calls.

22 25. Defendant intended to use an automatic telephone dialing system to place these calls.

23 **COUNT I**
24 **DEFENDANT VIOLATED THE ROSENTHAL FAIR DEBT COLLECTION**
25 **PRACTICES ACT**

26 26. Defendant violated the Rosenthal based on the following:

1 a. Defendant violated the § 1788.11(d) of the Rosenthal by causing Plaintiff's
2 telephone to ring repeatedly or continuously to annoy the person called.

3 b. Defendant violated § 1788.11(e) of the RFDCPA by communicating, by
4 telephone, with the debtor with such frequency as to be unreasonable and to
5 constitute an harassment to the debtor under the circumstances

6 c. Defendant violated the §1788.17 of the Rosenthal by continuously failing to
7 comply with the statutory regulations contained within the FDCPA, 15 U.S.C. §
8 1692 *et seq.* to wit: Sections 1692d.

9 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, RAMON BERMUDEZ, respectfully requests judgment be
10 entered against Defendant, CITIBANK, N.A. d/b/a Credit One Bank, for the following:

11 27. Statutory damages of \$1000.00 pursuant to the Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection Practices
12 Act, Cal. Civ. Code §1788.30(b),

13 28. Costs and reasonable attorneys' fees pursuant to the Rosenthal Fair Debt Collection
14 Practices Act, Cal. Civ Code § 1788.30(c), and

15 29. Any other relief that this Honorable Court deems appropriate.

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17 **COUNT II**
DEFENDANT VIOLATED THE TELEPHONE CONSUMER PROTECTION ACT

18 30. Defendant's actions alleged supra constitute numerous negligent violations of the TCPA,
19 entitling Plaintiff to an award of \$500.00 in statutory damages for each and every
20 violation pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B).

21 31. Defendant's actions alleged supra constitute numerous and multiple knowing and/or
22 willful violates of the TCPA, entitling Plaintiff to an award of \$1500.00 in statutory
23 damages for each and every violation pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(B) and 47
24 U.S.C. § 227(b)(3)(C).
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1 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff, RAMON BERMUDEZ, respectfully requests judgment be entered
2 against Defendant, CITIBANK, N.A. d/b/a Credit One Bank, for the following:

3 32. Statutory damages of \$500.00 for each and every negligent violation of the TCPA
4 pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § (b)(3)(B);

5 33. Statutory damages of \$1500.00 for each and every knowing and/or willful violation of
6 the TCPA pursuant to 47 U.S.C. § (b)(3)(b) and 47 U.S.C. § (b)(3)(C);

7 34. All court costs, witness fees and other fees incurred; and

8 35. Any other relief that this Honorable Court deems appropriate.

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10 RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED,

11 Dated: May 26, 2016

KROHN & MOSS, LTD.

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13 By: /s/ Corinne Orquiola
14 Corinne Orquiola
15 Attorney for Plaintiff
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